Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

for December, 1897, gives additional corroboration of the former claim, since he shows that the secretion digests fibrin in the presence of one per cent. hydrocyanic acid, and that its enzyme retains its digestive activity when kept for several weeks in pure glycerine. His studies do not reach to the secretion of the necessary acid, which, in one species at least, is present in the liquid of unopened pitchers, and therefore is not the result of stimulation by the presence of foreign bodies.

Primitive Angiosperms.—From a morphological study of Naias and Zannichellia,[1] Professor Campbell shows that both anthers and ovules are axial structures, approaching, as he believes, more closely to the sporangia of Pteridophytes than do those of any other angiosperm, and he seems inclined to look upon these genera as standing nearer to the diverging point of Isoetaceæ and monocotyledons than do most representatives of the latter group.

New Species of Pectis.—Mr. M. L. Fernald, of the Gray Herbarium, contributes to the knowledge of Mexican plants by publishing in vol. xxiii, no. 5, of the *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences* a paper on some rare and undescribed plants collected at Acapulco by Dr. Edward Palmer in 1894, and a systematic study of the genus Pectis, including species of the United States as well as Mexico. Of this genus, *P. Lessingii*, *P. prostrata*, var. *cylindrica*, and var. *urceolata*, *P. sinalœnsis*, *P. depressa*, *P. capillaris*, var. *paucicapitata*, *P. filipes*, var. *subnuda*, *P. Pringlei*, *P. Rosei*, *P. elongata*, var. *Schottii*, *P. ambigua*, and *P. linifolia*, var. *marginalis* are described as new.

Botanical Notes.—Botanists will be interested in knowing that the herbarium and notes of the late M. S. Bebb, a collection invaluable for any systematic study of North American willows, have been purchased by the Field Columbian Museum of Chicago.

An article on "The North American Genus Sarracenia," illustrated by a reproduction of a photograph of *S. Chelsoni* (*S. rubra* × *purpurea*), is to be found in *Gartenwelt*, of Berlin, of Dec. 26, 1897.

Students of European botany, who have found difficulty in resigning themselves to the use of one name for the terra-cotta-flowered and blue-flowered forms of the poor man's weather-glass, which they have found almost side by side in various places, will appreciate a critical article on the annual species of Anagallis of Europe, which M. Clos publishes in No. 7 of the *Bulletin de la Société Botanique de France* for 1897.

---

[1] D. H. Campbell, Contributions to Biology from the Hopkins Seaside Laboratory of the Leland Stanford Junior University. XI, A Morphological Study of Naias and Zannichellia. Reprinted from *Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences*, 3d ser., Bot., vol. i. San Francisco, Cal., 1897. 61 pp., 5 pl.

A note by M. Franchet, in No. 7 of the *Bulletin de la Société Botanique de France* for 1897, shows that, though certain reduced forms of *B. lunaria* have been mistaken for it, *Botrychium simplex* really occurs in France.

Another application of anatomical characters to the delimitation of species has been made by Gillot and Carmentier, who show, in No. 7 of the *Bulletin de la Société Botanique de France* for 1897 that *Rumex palustris* is a hybrid of *R. maritimus* and *R. conglomeratus.*

In a paper on "The Spruces of the Adirondacks," read before the Albany Institute in November, 1897, Professor Peck states that, though until recently only two species of Picea were credited to the Adirondack region, there is now good evidence of the presence there of four species: *P. canadensis*, the white spruce, *P. mariana*, the black spruce, *P. rubra*, the red spruce, with a dwarf variety, *P. rubra pusilla*, and what is held to be a new species, the swamp spruce, *P. brevifolia*, with a dwarf variety, *P. brevifolia semiprostrata.*

That the active use of insecticides and fungicides, promoted by the publication of "Spray Calendars" and the like by our Agricultural Experiment Stations, is being watched with interest in England, is shown by the publication in the December number of the *Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society* of a rather extended paper by S. C. Lamb on "The Treatment of Insects and Fungi in the United States."

To cultivators of hothouse plants an article on the genus Nepenthes, by H. J. Veitch, published in the December number of the *Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society*, cannot fail to prove of interest. In it are given a historical account of the introduction of these Old World pitcher plants into cultivation, and a number of ecological and cultural observations. Several species are figured, some of them in the early stages of development.

That the botanists of far-away New Zealand are active is shown by the *Transactions and Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute* for 1896, recently received, which contains no less than twenty-one botanical articles, among them several of considerable ecological interest.

No. 230 of the *Journal of the Linnæan Society, Botany*, is given up to the completion of a paper by Sir John Lubbock on buds and stipules, in which it is shown that the protective scales of winter buds may be either pedestals of last year's leaves, modified bases of leaves, leaf blades, modified leaves, stipules, connate pairs of stipules belonging to the same leaf, or connate pairs of stipules belonging to different leaves.

In the issue of *Science* of Dec. 17, 1897, Dr. J. W. Harshberger published an article on "The Native Dahlias of Mexico," in which, especially, the conditions under which these popular garden plants naturally occur and their natural color variation are made the subject of inquiry.

The mucilage cells of Opuntia have been made the subject of a recent study by Longo,[1] who states that they occur distributed through the fundamental parenchyma of all members of the plant, that their mucilage does not result from a transformation of the cell wall, but is a direct product of their protoplasm, and that their function is that of a water tissue. The same author has also[2] studied certain crystal and mucilage cells which are found in the branches and fruit of Platopuntias, though absent from the Cylindropuntias.

To students of the African flora the series of papers on Italian collections of Harar and Somali plants being published by the staff of the Berlin Garden in current numbers of the *Annuario* of the Botanical Institute of Rome should be of interest. A number of new species are described.

---

[1] *Annuario del R. Ist. Bot. di Roma*, **7**: pp. 44–57, pl. 2.

[2] *Loc. cit.*, pp. 79–83, pl. 8.